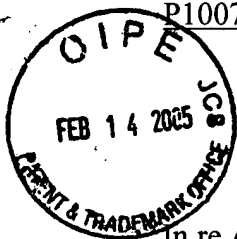


AF ZW

P1007(12832RRUS01)

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Tummala et. al.

Serial No.: 09/677,274

Filed: October 2, 2000

For: AAA Broker and Specification

Group Art Unit: 2126

Examiner: Chang, Jungwon

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

In response to the First Office Action mailed December 14, 2004, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration in light of the present Response.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date:

February 9, 2005

Amy Kasper

Amy Kasper

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

The claims were rejected and/or objected to as follows:

1. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 20-23, 25, and 40-42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in light of U.S. Patent 6,728,536 to Basilier (hereafter “the ‘536 Patent”).
2. Claims 3, 14, 19, 33, 38, and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘536 Patent in view of “Official Notice”.
3. Claims 5, 7-13, 15-18, 24, 26-32, and 34-37 were rejected under § 103(a) in view of the ‘536 Patent and U.S. Patent 6,466,977 to Sitarman et al.
4. Claim 1 was objected to for a typo.

The Applicants have amended the claims to address the objections and rejections raised by the Examiner. During a telephone conference with the Examiner, it was suggested that independent claims would be allowable if certain dependent claim limitations were incorporated therein (e.g. Claim 1 was amended to incorporate some of the limitations from Claims 4 and 5, Claim 19 was amended to include limitations of both Claim 1 and 19, and Claim 22 and 42 were amended to include limitations of Claim 24). After discussing the proposed amendments in a telephone conference with the Examiner, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application and allowance of the claims as currently amended.